

# the bullet

Mary Washington College

P.O. Box 1115, Fredericksburg, Virginia



Jan. 31, 1972

## the great divorce

# Mary Washington, Mason sever UVa ties

The proposed separation between Mary Washington College and the University of Virginia will affect very few people directly, Chancellor Grellet Simpson says.

The State Council of Virginia Colleges recently recommended the split to the Virginia State legislature, and the University of Virginia Board of Visitors is scheduled to meet on February third to discuss the proposed independence of Mary Washington College. If approved by the board and the Virginia legislature, the separation will take place by the first of July.

"The changes will mostly affect the college on the governing level", said Simpson. The College will have its own Board of Visitors according to state policy for all four-year, degree-granting institutions. Funding will not be affected, except for one scholarship program involving two or three students which will be resolved by the time the separation takes effect.

Although Simpson believes the college will become more coeducational, he stated that it would not come as a result of the decision. He added that it is not probable that men's residential facilities will be available on a large scale for another five or six years.

With Mary Washington as a separate institution, Simpson expects a more multipurpose college, a more comprehensive curriculum, and a college more useful to the community. He also suggested that more night classes will become available for special students in the local community, as well as for residential students.

Simpson, who stated that he was "very optimistic" about the change, and feels that an institution with the established academic reputation and in-

creasing number of students which characterize MWC should have a governing board of its own without being considered a branch of another university.

In a somewhat surprise move, George Mason College has also acted to sever all ties with the University of Virginia, transforming itself into an independent university.

Under a bill introduced into the Virginia Legislature by House Majority Leader James M. Thomson from Alexandria, George Mason would be the first branch college under the UVa system to become an independent university, operating with its own rector and board of visitors.

Edgar F. Shannon, president of UVa, commented that the move would be "thoroughly acceptable" to him, provided that the action received the approval of the university's board of visitors and the local advisory board of George Mason College.

Shannon added that independence had always been in the plans for George Mason College and that the decision by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools to grant George Mason full accreditation, "seems to be a reasonable demarcation line."

In little more than ten years, George Mason College has grown from a center of extension classes into a college of 7,000 students, including doctoral candidates.

Delegate Thomson is a member of the local advisory board of George Mason College which will, in all probability, become the new board of visitors.

Delegate Thomson believes that, barring strong protests, the bill will win approval by the General Assembly.

## Alinsky selected visiting lecturer

A radical is "that person to whom the common good is the greatest social value."

Saul Alinsky, who describes himself as a professional radical, will visit Mary Washington College March 22-23, as this year's distinguished Visitor in Residence.

Dedicated to the principle, "You should look at the world—not as it is, but what it should be," Alinsky has spent the last 25 years mobilizing minority groups into broad-based community pressure blocs.

In 1938, Alinsky organized the Back of the Yards, transforming an Irish-American Chicago slum into a community powerful enough to exert positive pressure on the business establishment, the landlords, the meatpacking industry, and the local political machine. He has also played a crucial role in the organization of anti-Communist labor unions in Italy and in the development of the Northwest Community Organization, the Woodlawn Organization, and FIGHT (Freedom, Independence, God, Honor—Today); groups designated to speak in behalf of black ghetto residents.

Recently, Alinsky has directed his efforts toward the white middle class, with the establishment of a national institute designed to train residents of the white middle class to organize in their urban and suburban neighborhoods.

In his manifesto "Reveille for Radicals," Alinsky comments that "the only way to upset the power structure of a community is to confuse, irritate and make the law makers live by their own rules. If you make them live by their own rules, you'll destroy them."

Asked his opinion on Alinsky, a reporter from the ECONOMIST commented, "It requires little imagination to discover why he is so disliked by his opponents: He cannot be intimidated; and he breaks all the rules."

## Chancellor vetoes speakers

by Beth Thomas

Administrative resistance, insufficient funds, and class disinterest have blocked the senior class in its attempt to break precedent by presenting an outside speaker at graduation, reported Sharon Hill, member of the senior class Speaker Committee.

According to Ellen Taylor, senior class president, lack of communication and resistance characterized the student-administration relations from the beginning as the idea was presented to Chancellor Simpson in several meetings. She explains, "We had a real cross-communication. I went to the Chancellor first,

sort of feeling him out. He said to go ahead and look into the matter but to avoid anyone political or controversial. Later, Mr. Bass (class advisor) went and the Chancellor seemed aghast at the fact that we had formed a committee. Somewhere, someone had misinterpreted."

Chancellor Simpson and Bass disapproved of an outsider speaker for graduation. According to Simpson, in years past there had been outside speakers but the faculty, students, and administra-

tion had chosen to delete them. Simpson believes that graduation should be small and intimate, not a showplace. Bass was "not co-operative," says Hill. He held that it would make the ceremony too long and that no one would listen anyway. Hill stated, "We've been battling contradictions the whole way."

Class disinterest and insufficient funds have also inhibited the committee. A senior class pole with a 2/3 response chose an outside speaker only by a bare majority. Preferences for speakers were: 1) Art Buchwald, 2) Ralph Nader, 3) Gloria Steinham and 4) Walter Cronkite. Buchwald was too expensive and the Chancellor vetoed Nader for his controversiality.

Some committee members are investigating Steinham but, Taylor says, "I don't see how our class can get anyone not political for a feasible price. I don't see how other schools do it." She feels that the Speaker Committee will be dissolved at the class meeting Monday night and Chancellor Simpson will be invited to speak. Says Hill, "We may not accomplish our goal this year but perhaps we have laid the ground work for future classes."



Photo Courtesy of FREE LANCE-STAR



By Susan Belter

According to many doctors, the spread of venereal disease in the United States has reached epidemic proportions. Once believed to be confined to the lower social classes, VD now strikes at every level of society.

VD is a particular problem of young people in this country. The head of the Los Angeles County Venereal Disease Control Division has stated that the probability that a person will contract VD before they reach the age of 25, is fifty per cent.

Reported cases of VD now exceed those of strep throat, scarlet fever, measles, mumps, hepatitis, and tuberculosis combined. Due to the social stigma, it is estimated that only one out of every four cases is reported.

Venereal disease is a term derived from Venus, the Roman goddess of love. It includes a variety of symptoms transmitted through sexual intercourse or oral contact with a male or female partner infected with VD.

Syphilis is the best known and most serious of the venereal diseases. First symptoms include a sore on the genitalia and swollen lymph nodes. If untreated, the disease progresses to a secondary stage in which the sore disappears, but a rash spreads over the entire body. This stage may disappear in a matter of days. The disease however, may remain latent and reappear in the form of a mental illness known as paresis, paralysis, or blindness. Pregnant women may infect their unborn child, causing death or severe deformities. The child may also be born with congenital syphilis.

Gonorrhea is the most prevalent venereal disease. Men develop the visible symptom of a whitish discharge from the urinary canal within three to five

days after infection. The condition can be cured with injections of penicillin or other antibiotics. Women however, may not develop symptoms for months, by which time they may have passed the disease on to others. When symptoms develop they may be similar to those of appendicitis or rheumatic fever. By the time that the disease is properly

diagnosed and treated, it may have caused irreparable damage to the reproductive system. Damage caused by gonorrhea is the leading cause of sterility among women. It is estimated that one out of every ten women in America has gonorrhea.

If a pregnant woman is infected with gonorrhea, it may result in the death, of both herself and the child. Gonorrhea may also cause arthritis, irritate tendons, damage the heart and cause meningitis.

The high rate of VD in the United States has been attributed to the greater sexual freedom, which is due, in part, to the use of contraceptives. There is now medical evidence that the birth control pill contributes to the contraction of VD by increasing the alkalinity of the female genital tract. This encourages the growth of the bacteria which causes gonorrhea. Doctors also believe that the use of interuterine devices increases a woman's susceptibility to gonorrhea.

Doctors note that the advent of the pill causes men to abandon the use of condoms which protected both partners against infection, and caused the women to abandon the use of contraceptive jellies whose acid content may destroy the gonorrhea causing bacteria.

Persons who suspect that they have VD should seek treatment as soon as possible. People who cannot afford, do not have, or are reluctant to consult a private physician, can seek treatment at a local

public health clinic. The public health service doctors are skilled in the treatment of VD and ask few embarrassing questions. They forward no names, only statistics, to federal authorities. They will not refuse treatment if a person will not list the names of those with whom they have had sexual intercourse.

The public health service will contact any names given as discreetly as possible and have them checked for VD. If it is desired, the public health service will not reveal any name to those listed as contacts. In 41 states, parental consent is not required for a minor to be examined for VD. The other nine states, of which one is Virginia, are in the process of revising their laws on the subject of venereal disease.

Note—The Fredericksburg Public Health Service, located at 435 Hunter St., is equipped to administer tests for venereal disease at no charge. Parental consent, in the case of minors, is not required.

—Ed.

## Flynn abandons Honor changes

"I got so little positive support from the students it's just not worth my time," said Jack Flynn of his recent campaign to revise the honor system.

Flynn felt MWC students were so indifferent about the honor system that "They don't even care enough to get rid of one." However he favors students "taking their not caring one further step" by boycotting honor council elections this spring if his issue does not come up sooner.

"With elections, they (the candidates) will make a platform for me," stated Flynn. "I won't speak, let them speak, let them get on the platform, I'll be there to ask questions."

If Flynn carries out this plan at spring, the issue during honor council elections may not be who will be on the council, but if there will be a council at all. "I consider a non vote as important as a person who does vote," he stated. Flynn seeks to show students that they are taking a stand by either voting or not voting and "if they don't vote, throw it out."

"Students shouldn't be forced to sign an honor card, students shouldn't be forced to go under some Micky Mouse honor code," Flynn said. "When I drive home I don't have to pledge that I wasn't speeding, I think there would be a lot more honest atmosphere here if every time you take a test you didn't have to tell that you hadn't cheated. It seems trivial. As it is now," he continued, "the faculty can't take a student to trial, it's supposed to be students doing things for students, but instead it's students screwing students."

In apparent response to criticism about the honor system raised by people like Jack Flynn, the honor council is planning to poll students in order to learn their ideas and attitudes. Honor council member Barbara Barnes called Flynn's setback in his ideas "disappointing" adding "I think he had some good ideas." Beth Conrad, honor council president, said "I really do think there's a problem, there's no security in the system now . . . we have to either change the system or change the students." Conrad outlined the honor council's plans which include a mandatory student body meeting to be held sometime in the next two weeks followed by a poll asking "point blank questions" about students' opinions of the honor system and ideas for changes.

## American U sees victory for women

(CPS) — After a week of protests culminating in takeovers of the home of the president of American University and the administration building, American University women were successful, two weeks ago, in gaining gynecological health care clinic on campus.

Five students who were suspended earlier in the week during the sit-in conducted by 30 students in the office of university president George Williams were readmitted without penalty as Williams reversed his earlier headline attitude against the clinic.

Williams was turned around on the gynecological care issue after women proponents of the clinic allied with the Student Association in demanding a greatly expanded student role in university governance. The group demanding the clinic, a loosely formed coalition of women from various organizations at American, backed away from the SA-sponsored demands after Williams gave in on the clinic issue.

The plan for holding some sort of gynecological clinic on the campus first surfaced early last Spring when several women began circulating information and a questionnaire of women student's needs. Of 2,590 women students on the American University campus, 600 responded to the survey. An overwhelming majority, 592, said they felt there was an immediate need for a gynecology and birth control clinic. Of this number, according to the survey, 302 said they had gotten birth control pills from a doctor, 121 said they had gone to a doctor for pregnancy, 60 said they had had abortions and 57 said they had been treated for venereal disease.

The original clinic idea as proposed by the women's group asked the university to set aside

sufficient space so that the D.C. Planned Parenthood clinic could move its operations to the campus one day each week. Williams vetoed this idea at first because he said he did not want an outside agency coming in that would have no relationship or responsibility to the university. At press time, Williams was engaged in negotiations with the same Planned Parenthood as to the best means for them to set up a clinic on campus. This week a university spokesman blamed poor communications between the campus and Williams and said that the "Vice-President for Student Affairs should have taken care of the whole thing."

The Student Association demands meanwhile remain in limbo, with Williams promising to talk about them with SA President Chuck Morton. Included are demands for the student activities fee to come under control of the SA, the administration to match \$10 thousand put up by the SA for a day care center, a ceiling on tuition and resident hall fees, a 24-hour seven day infirmary, upgrading of the library and an end to professorial and curricular cuts. The outcome of these issues is unclear, and American, like most other U.S. universities, is experiencing financial trouble due to the drying-up of federal grant money.

During the protest activities, more than a hundred students moved from one university entrance to another blocking traffic and building barricades off desks in the streets.

The five women whose suspensions were rescinded still have to face university judicial proceedings on an unspecified charge ("violating university regulations"), but it is not expected that any action will be taken against them.

## Directions

### Advantages of sexual segregation

by Joan McAllister

Women attending women's colleges in this country today are constantly being met with the degrading question, "How do you get along without men?" The retort to such a question could easily be, "Who needs them?" However, a slight alteration could turn it into a serious answer, "Who needs them now?" Why necessarily are men needed at this period in a girl's life?

Segregation of women from men during their early education could prove to be a useful way for women to realize their self-worth.

Some Blacks have set up school for their children to establish Black pride and arm them against the prejudice they will meet in every day life. The teacher makes the children yell at the top of their lungs, "I am Black, and I am beautiful." The teacher harasses a student with "You are just a little colored boy," and the young boy must counter loudly with "I am Black, and I am beautiful." Brain washing? Maybe, but this and other damaging remarks will be heard so often that they will become a part of these youngster's personalities. These children are developing a self-awareness and self-confidence, no matter, at this point, how shallow.

Prejudice against women in our society is so subtle that women also need the same type of conditioning. Women's colleges are an answer. By short term segregation of the sexes, women can gain a greater self-knowledge and self-confidence. They can compete against each other without having to fight men to make themselves heard.

In the medical field, for example, women who want to be doctors must face this very problem. Not only are women considered to be "taking up places" in medical schools, but they must suffer insulting remarks regarding their femininity. Nevertheless, this has not discouraged those women who really know what they want. Such women are naturally more self-confident in even considering such a career in today's society. However, in the current situation, it is easy to understand why so many women without enough self-confidence become nurses instead of doctors.

Perhaps women's colleges would not even get to the heart of the problem now. What must be dealt with is the development of the girl's personality. Reaching girls at an earlier age would be more effective than waiting until college age. By college the woman has accepted her role and simply considers the woman's school a prison, keeping her from her intended role of motherhood. If girls and boys could be segregated in elementary school, the girls might be able to gain confidence as individuals.

Even before school age the girl is gently shepherded into her role of future motherhood. The girl is kept in close contact with her mother and learns from her "how to please a man." In most cases, the girl is not included when her father and brother throw the football. Her interest in playing with cars on the rug with her brother is accepted but only under regulated conditions. If she continues past seven years old in this trend she is called a tomboy, a title disturbing even today to those who must wear it.

In high school she strives to have a boyfriend. Often she does not consider her education important and is not encouraged by her parents. This continues into college, when, invariably, the girl transfers to her boyfriend's school instead of vice versa. This tendency then continues once the girl and boy are married. The woman must give up her job if the man is transferred because of his job. The woman's life and ambitions are considered less important than the man's.

Women must stop being reared to be subservient and inferior to their husbands. Girls are usually ahead of boys in academics through elementary and high school and should be encouraged at this time. It should be made known to them that they too should plan on careers in future life. Girls in their early years are not given enough push or encouragement to have a career. Thus, when they reach college perhaps they would really like a career but instead give into the easier and more secure way of motherhood. They do not have to face up to themselves, because they know that people do not expect anything more from them.

Today's co-ed colleges are not the answer even though they do have a more natural atmosphere. With the situation as it is now, women cannot really accomplish anything at a co-ed school. They are still talked down to and not given a fair chance. Men are not necessarily the enemy, but women cannot fairly communicate with them in the current situation.

At the same time that girls are being taught to complete their personalities, boys should be encouraged to accept girls as equals, with assurances that they do not have to strive for the glamorized picture of the American male. This image is planted in his early years and carried on through his teen years by his parents, friends, and the mass media. The American male in today's society must try to fulfill his role of independence and a certain irresponsibility.

The boy's masculinity is established if he is ten years old and comes home with an issue of Playboy magazine. His parents consider this "cute" and sum it up with the phrase "boys will be boys." In his teens the boy soon realizes that when he uses girls for sex, he is not the one considered cheap. It is considered normal that boys use girls, but girls do not use boys. Next, the young man does not face the prospect of being an old maid, he is simply a bachelor. He continues to embellish this bachelor role until he is married, and after the four or five years that he has been a bachelor he finally believes it himself. So often, after he is married, he can never really settle down. He has worked so hard at fulfilling his role, he actually believes it.

So many marriages thus end in divorce. In the majority of cases, the woman is given custody of any children in the marriage, and remains responsible for them until they reach legal age. Although it may be a burden to the woman, the theory is that the man is worse off, because he has been penalized by not receiving the custody of his own children. However, why in American society has the woman always been considered the more responsible; therefore, having to make up for all the male's shortcomings?

A stress on the girl to realize and begin her future life as a mother points to the American tradition of raising responsible women and irresponsible men. The unnatural stress on girls, that they will be mothers and not have careers, can be seen as one reason for the breakdown in family roles, leading to the perpetuation of the male with no responsible role.

To simply segregate girls and boys, in the existing situation, would not serve any real purpose. However, if the educational environment were changed girl's schools would be of value. A girl's school could motivate and stimulate individual thinking. The girl would be given a chance to get a grasp on her real person.

"They said, 'Your attitude has changed.' I said, of course it has. I have seen what is going on in this school... You don't expect a drowning man to grin?"

As Mary Washington finally moves to liquidate her adjunctive relationship with university of Virginia, it seems a proper time to stop and consider her future direction as an academic institution.

Despite recent co-education, Mary Washington remains, in all respects, a women's college. And, unless students soon begin to act, it will be among the last women's colleges to fall. Institutions such as Longwood College are, in a sense, much easier to deal with. They are pits of oppression and the lines are very clearly drawn. They have no direction. It is very easy to see what to fight—everything.

Mary Washington is a different situation. Here we have token liberalism in its truest sense. It is so easy to be lulled into falsely believing that things are changing. For many, one has only to remember a time, not five years ago, when students couldn't wear pants to class; couldn't stay out past 11:00 p.m.; and couldn't have men in dormitory rooms, in order to convince them that things are moving forward; that things are getting better. That we should be quiet and wait.

We are not moving forward. We have our feet stuck in 50 years of history and our minds are still wearing hoop skirts.

Students must realize that it is they who must foster change. No one is going to give us anything. It is the people who live here who must make this a place to live.

We must make Mary Washington serve us. We must work toward the abolition of freshmen dormitories; toward the institution of student services, such as the infirmary and mental health clinic, which provide for our real needs; toward the collectivization of the bookstore, dining hall and "C-Shop", in order to serve us instead of make money; toward the active recruitment of men; toward the increased enrollment of blacks; toward a voice in the hiring of our professors; toward student consideration in curriculum changes, etc.

In a sense, it is up to us to liberate Mary Washington. For, until Mary Washington ceases to prostitute herself to the town of Fredericksburg; to the Virginia legislature; to the administration; to our parents; etc., we cannot cease to be anything but academic and social bastards.

L.C.

## the bullet

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# Johnson supports individual's right to life

The issue of abortion has occupied the minds of humans for as long as civilized society has existed. There have been times when abortion was legally condoned and socially accepted, and other periods of mankind's history when this practice was outlawed and considered to be a criminal act. Today, at a point in time when the rights of individuals are being attacked, ignored, or destroyed, we are again witnessing a resurgence of the debate on abortion, and within the past few years, the passage of laws which remove most or all restrictions which have, in the previous history of this nation, protected the individual rights of the most vulnerable, defenseless, and innocent of human beings: the unborn child.

The abortion controversy is not just another dispute causing people to occupy opposing intellectual and legal camps. It is not a subject that can be equated in importance with other national concerns. Abortion is an issue which must be recognized as one of the most, if not the most important argument of our times, for it deals with an attack on the fundamental right of all humans: the right to life. When this right, upon which all other rights depend, can be set aside; when, at the whim of an adult, a new human life can be destroyed simply because another human does not wish to allow this life to continue; when it is decided that one stage of human life is of no real value—that its existence is an inconvenience to others and can thus be terminated—mankind loses its most precious value.

Once the absolute value of each individual to his own life vanishes, existence no longer remains as a right, but becomes a privilege to be granted or denied by those in authoritative positions, by majority vote, or by the caprice of an unreasoning mother.

There is but one approach that can be taken in dealing with the subject of abortion—the metaphysical approach. Metaphysics is a branch of philosophy which involves the attempt to understand the nature of existence, to explain and scientifically analyze natural phenomena, both in the animate

and inanimate realms. Since abortion is dealing with the destruction of the human embryo or fetus, it is necessary to examine the biological nature of these entities and apply this information to another division of philosophy—Ethics—in the attempt to determine the correct behavior of men towards these intrauterine stages.

Among those who advocate abortion, who state that a woman should be able to terminate a pregnancy simply because she desires to do so, there are two significant groups. One group states that the entity within the uterine cavity is not a living human being, that the embryo or fetus is simply a

cluster of multiplying cells that could be considered as a part of the mother's body. The other group considers the embryo or fetus to be human, but argues that there is a conflict between the rights of the mother and those of the unborn child. That the mother must have full control over her body, and that if she is denied this right she will fall victim to the rights of the unborn.

What is the actual nature of the intrauterine stages and does a real conflict exist between the mother and the unborn? In order to answer these questions it will be necessary to briefly analyze the

known essentials of reproduction, particularly those factors which apply to vertebrates, of which the human is the most advanced form, and correlate this knowledge with the issue of the rights of the embryo or fetus, and the mother.

Sexual reproduction—reproduction accomplished by means of the production of sperms and eggs, and their subsequent fusion—is characteristic of most forms of life, and is the only method of reproduction possessed by numerous animal groups (for example, all vertebrates). Once a mature animal produces the sex cells, they are released from the organs in which they formed (the testis or ovary) and usually pass into ducts leading to the outside of the organism. Either the sperms and eggs are

released into water, at which time fertilization occurs immediately, or sperm cells are introduced into the female tract and fertilization will eventually take place within the body of the female. The essential point is, that at the time of fusion of sex cells, a new generation of a species is produced.

Within each cell of an animal there are two sets of chromosomes (filaments containing genes). When the sex cells are formed, each sperm or egg contains only one set of chromosomes, but when a sperm fuses with an egg the full complement of chromosomes pairs is re-established. It is at this point, at the time of the formation of the zygote (the cell formed by the fusion of the sperm and egg) that a new organism comes into existence.

In human reproduction, the sperm fertilizes the egg in the upper portion of the oviduct. A new human life thus begins its existence in the cavity of the oviduct, and since it takes several days for the new organism to reach the uterus, it is already an embryo by the time it enters that organ.

One frequently hears the argument that the zygote, embryo or fetus is a part of the mother's body over which she must have control. Without question, this is not the case. Once sperms and eggs are discharged from the sex organs, they are no longer a part of the organism which produced them. These highly specialized cells, which have been produced by a special form of cell division (meiosis—other body cells are formed by the process of mitosis), are of no value to the organism which formed them (as regards the maintenance of its own life)—thus they either degenerate or they are released from the sex organs and pass into a tube on their way out of the body. Ultimately a small fraction of these discarded sex cells will fuse. Under no circumstances could one consider mature released sex cells, or any subsequent organism resulting from the fusion of these cells, as a part of the individual which generated them.

(Although the human embryo attaches itself to the wall of the uterus in order to gain needed substances from the mother for its growth and development, it does not fuse with this organ but remains as a distinct new life existing within the cavity of the mother's reproductive tract.)

Human life therefore has its beginning (is viable) at a point in time when the necessary genetic information, half coming from the father and the other half from the mother, is brought together by the fusion of the released sperm and egg to form the single celled zygote. This individual organism cannot be a part of the mother (it has an entirely different set of chromosomes), but is a separate and unique human life.

There is another important, but generally overlooked, aspect of the development of vertebrates which is germane to the discussion of abortion and which would shed light on the nature of the intrauterine embryo or fetus. It is a well known biological fact that all vertebrate life must begin in an aquatic environment. Fishes and amphibians generally release the sex cells into a body of water and the zygotes and embryos develop there. In the land vertebrates, which do not deposit their eggs into water, a sac forms around the embryo which fills with fluid. Consequently, each vertebrate, including the human, must spend the first developmental phase of its life in a water medium, and it is only after the new organism has achieved the necessary physical development (not accomplished by fishes and some amphibians), that it is able to continue its life in a gaseous environment.

(Even if humans should achieve the technological ability to raise what science fiction writers have called "bottle babies," these "bottles" would be filled with fluid. It is only because the human organism begins its life, not in a glass container in which one could observe the rapidly changing new life, but a dark cavity out of sight, that older humans find it possible to pretend that these younger humans are not living or are not human. If the growth of the unborn child were to be observed by the mother, the issue of abortion would most likely never have become a matter of world wide concern, for what psychologically healthy mother, seeing the unborn child within herself, would choose to destroy it.)

Metaphysically, by its nature, every new human life must spend the first months of its existence in an aquatic environment, within the amniotic sac, if it is ever to experience a later stage of human existence. No human life has ever bypassed this requirement, or ever will—at least not for many millions of years, if then, considering the present rate of evolution. Every new human life must also have first been a zygote, then an embryo and finally a fetus before it is prepared to live outside the fluid medium. To contend that human life is only human at the time of birth, that the intrauterine entity is not an actual, but only a potential human being, is untenable.

For those who insist that human life begins only at birth, the question that must be asked is—What is this entity developing within the uterus if not an actual human being? Is it possible that by some magic, at the time of birth, that this alleged potential being is somehow, within a matter of minutes, transformed into an actual human being? To rational individuals, in possession of scientific facts, the answer is incontrovertible. Both the unborn child and the new born child is an actual human being, and at the time of birth, the child is merely moving from one required environment (aquatic) to a new required environment (gaseous) so that it can continue to develop into the succeeding stages of its life until it eventually ends its existence at the time of death.

The biological facts relating to the reproductive process and the first stages of human life have been established. It is now necessary to relate this knowledge to the issue of rights.

Those that contend that the intrauterine being is not human have no problem in their attempt to settle a controversy over rights, for if this living "thing" is not human, it can possess no rights. Since it is a well substantiated fact that the zygote, embryo, or fetus is a human being, their argument becomes meaningless and requires no further discussion.

Those that contend that a human life is existing within the mother during the period of pregnancy do ascribe rights to this new human life, but it is argued that the rights of the mother take precedence over those of the unborn child and thus she has, or should have, the legal and moral right to terminate the life of this new individual at any, or certain limited, stages of its existence. This latter position requires a succinct examination.

A woman must have full control over her own body at all times. She must be free to take any action which is deemed necessary to sustain her life. For instance, if it can be medically determined that carrying her unborn child to term would probably result in her death, she cannot be expected or required to sacrifice her adult independent life for the life of an immature, dependent offspring. (Actually, in many such cases, both the mother and the fetus could die, resulting in the loss of two lives, instead of just one). Since medical science has advanced to a point at which such life and death situations rarely occur, the argument in favor of abortion in order to preserve the life of the mother has only limited application. Although this is the case, the legal code should specifically grant abortions if the mother's life is seriously jeopardized, which it has done through out the history of this nation.

Are there other circumstances that might arise which would, or could, legally and morally permit an expectant mother to undergo an abortion? The answer is yes—in cases of legally proven (which is sometimes difficult), unwillingly engaged in acts of rape or incest. When an individual does not commit an act of his own free will, he (or she) cannot be held responsible for the consequences of this act.

Although this is true, it does not alter the fact that a new life is existing and that it will be destroyed if aborted. The most humane response to such a circumstance would be to encourage the expectant mother to carry the child to term, but no one could require this of the victim.

There are some who insist that abortion should be allowed for other medical reasons—in the case of diseased or malformed fetuses. But what individual

# "metaphysical approach to abortion"

physician, or board of physicians, or legislative body has the ability to determine what diseased condition or what deformity could warrant killing the unborn (or the born). No such judgment is possible, either for the intrauterine or extrauterine human.

Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Willke, in their recently released book, "Handbook On Abortion," emphasize this point when they write: "This price tag of comfort or utilitarian usefulness, called euthanasia when applied to incurably ill post-born humans, applies equally well to the pre-born human who is also judged to be so deformed or mentally deficient that he too should not be permitted to live. This criterion and value judgment which permits human to continue to live only because they are useful and independent is an utterly barbaric concept. Once life has a price tag on it and is no longer an absolute right, then all life is endangered, all life is only worth the current price tag placed upon it by society, the state, the master race, or those in positions of power."

Having full control over her own body (having self determination) is an absolute right of each woman, but having full control over another's body, over the body of a new life developing within her reproductive system is not, and never could be her prerogative. A woman must have the right to prevent conception—to determine herself is she wishes to have, or not to have, a child—to obtain contraceptive information and materials—but she

must also bear the responsibility for sustaining the life of a newly formed human if she willfully engages in intercourse which results in pregnancy.

(It should be noted that certain contraceptives do not prevent conception, but preclude the implantation of the embryo in the wall of the uterus.



Sketch by Wendy Cortesi  
Reprinted from the WASHINGTON POST

The use of such contraceptives should be condemned for they bring about the destruction of very young lives rather than prevent their coming into existence.)

Consider the political philosophy, and the attitude toward individual rights, of those groups which are the most outspoken supporters of abortion—those concerned with environmental pollution, the population explosion, and the "liberation" of women. Each of these groups espouses a collectivist view of life and considers the individual human to be expendable or enslavable as the means of achieving their ends. They are active lobbyists backing

legislation granting the agency of force, the government, the authority to establish a myriad of programs which they consider necessary to achieve their aims, and they completely ignore the fact that it is other human lives that will be sacrificed in this attempt to carry out their master plan for society. The sacrifice of the unborn is just one

other aspect of their social engineering which is completely compatible with their view of man—the view that the individual is nothing; the collective is all.

There is no conflict between the expectant mother and the unborn child. Both she and the new life within her have the right to life, a right which must be possessed by all humans at all stages of their life. And since it is the function of government to protect the rights of all humans, from the beginning of life to its end, it is right for the government to proscribe the killing of the unborn by

means of abortion—except to save the life of the mother or in instances where a woman's self determination was obliterated, as in the case of forced rape or incest.

In her brilliant essay, "Man's Rights," Ayn Rand states: "There are no 'rights' of special groups, there are no 'rights' of farmers, of workers, of businessmen, of employees, of employers, of the old, of the young, of the unborn." There are only the Rights of Man—rights possessed by every individual man and by all men as individuals." The unborn child is a new individual having the same rights as all other individuals, and, as with all humans, regardless of their age or station in life,

possess the most basic of all rights, the right without which all other rights would cease to exist, the right to life.

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## news

MWC Senior Class will hold its first meeting of the semester tonight at 6:30 p.m. in ACL ballroom.

The Senate will meet Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m. in ACL ballroom.

Barbara Taylor and Elizabeth Chezik will present a duo piano recital, Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 7:30 p.m. in Kleir Memorial Theatre.

The Braille Writing Class will be held Wednesday, Feb. 2 at 2:15 p.m. in Combs 107.

The campus American Civil Liberties Union will sponsor the showing of "The Murder of Fred Hampton," Thursday, Feb. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in Monroe 21. Donations will be 75¢.

The following is a list of films for the second semester. All movies will be shown on Saturdays, 8:00 p.m., in GW auditorium:

Feb. 5 "If"  
Feb. 12 "Bob, Carol, Ted, and Alice"  
Feb. 19 "Women In Love"  
Feb. 26 "80 Days"  
March 4 "The Owl and The Pussycat"  
March 25 "Loving"  
April 1 "Fellini Satyricon"  
April 8 "The Molly Maguires"  
April 15 "Sweet November"

## MS: a disappointment to feminists

Few people expected MS. to be a searing revolutionary magazine, committed ideologically and politically to publicize women's liberation and put a stop to sexism. Last year, when its founders announced its impending birth, they also said that the magazine would be backed financially by NEW YORK, a magazine with a readership as select as the radical chic itself. That early clue to MS's identity—predictable politics in a slick cover—was not far wrong.

What came onto the newsstands before Christmas was only half the size of the expanded first edition which just came out this month. But swaddled in the center pages of NEW YORK's end-of-the-year issue was the biggest disappointment in a long time. MS. took the familiar tone of any of the prosperous women's magazines already in existence, published and edited by men, for women. Worse, women wrote MS., and they wrote it in the old familiar way that LADIES' HOME JOURNAL or REDBOOK writes for its feminine readers: down. The same patronization, the same cutesy style couldn't disguise what the (women) editors had done; they had sized up their audience as the young, with-it libs, and they were patronizing them on almost every page.

Take, for example, the content of the magazine. The only article by a man is a longish, rather nervous column by Nicholas von Hoffman, the Washington POST's house radical. "Son of Women's Lib," he calls himself, and writes a eulogy/testimonial about his successful professional mother. She is an admirable and competent woman, no doubt; but by the time her son had finished the column, she came off like a Most Unforgettable Character in READERS' DIGEST. The moral of her story: the way von Hoffman tells it, though charmingly eccentric, she followed every businessman's tripartite maxim: 1. work hard; 2. be independent; and 3. be nice to people. Accordingly, she made her way in a man's world.

Von Hoffman is a good writer; better, unfortunately, than Gloria Steinem, who is one of MS's editors. He is notably sympathetic towards women's issues. In his contribution to the magazine, though, he made the same two mistakes that flaw the whole magazine.

The first is the assumption—supposedly rejected by the more vocal women's organizations—that women really want to be a success at Merrill, Lynch,

Pierce, Fenner and Smith (who advertised in MS's pages). That is, that women are willing to accept the role of a man, with its competitiveness and business acumen, in order to rise in the world.

The second is the content based on the assumption. This includes advertisements ("Liberate your Martini" with X vodka) and articles full of helpful suggestions which instruct the modern lib on the ways to make a marriage contract, get it on with her sisters, and, not surprisingly, how to vote. All of them push for women as the successors and usurpers of the present male chauvinists. All of them would style women into the "ideal" form for living in the world; they accept as their model the upwardly mobile male of the American business and professional scene.

MS. may, like PHOTOPLAY or TRUE CONFESSIONS, survive or succeed in the perilous magazine business because it can turn a fast buck. As the magazine it claims to be, it fails. It is not for women because it has all of us sized up. Like PLAYBOY, its writers and editors assume that we are the same women we were brought up to be. If our interests have shifted from wedding gowns to day care centers for the kiddies, so much the better, because our reactions will be predictable. We will react—so goes the PLAYBOY and MS. line of thought—just like the women we are and never like full-blooded members of the human race.

Robin Darling

## MWC police report library bomb scare

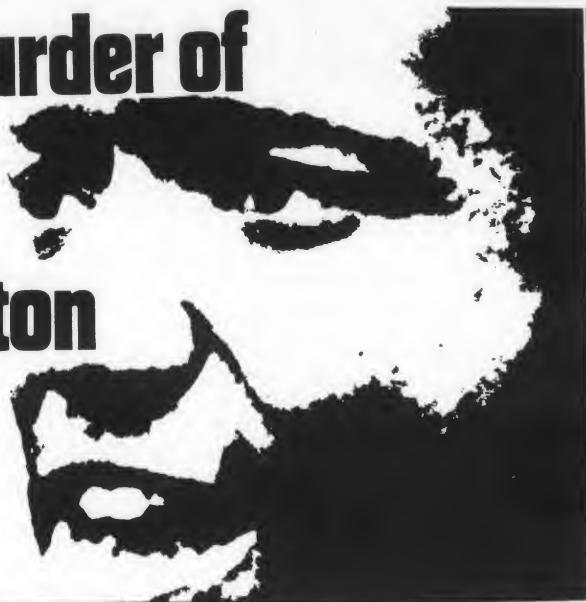
MWC students were evacuated from E. Lee Trinkle Library last Saturday, Jan. 22, after the campus switchboard operator received information from a "mature, white, male voice" that a bomb was set to go off at 4:30 p.m.

Campus police, accompanied by the Fredericksburg City Police, searched the library and, finding no trace of a mysterious object, closed the library for the evening.

Campus police also reported that at 1:34 a.m. on Nov. 16, Chancellor Grellet C. Simpson received a call from a woman who stated, "I am going to blow up every dormitory at Mary Washington in protest of the Vietnam War." Considering the scope of the threat, the campus police decided not to act on the call.

Both anonymous calls have been reported to the FBI.

# The murder of Fred Hampton



Fred Hampton, 21, Chairman of the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party was shot and killed in his bed on the morning of December 4, 1969, by the Illinois state's attorney's police. The police called it self defense. The people called it murder. The American Civil Liberties is sponsoring the film, "The Murder of Fred Hampton," Thursday, Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m., in Monroe 21. Donations are 75c

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Evenings 7:00—Feature 7:40  
NOW PLAYING  
"GONE WITH THE WIND"

Starts Wednesday  
"DOLLARS"

## LATCH STRING

### LUNCHEON

MON.-FRI. 11:30-2 p.m.

Steamship Roast Beef	2.75
Crab Cakes	2.25
Shrimp 21	2.00
Roast Beef Sandwich	1.25
Latch String Club	1.50
Submarine	1.50
Rueben	1.25
Steak and Cheese	1.00
Chicken Salad	.85c
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Hamburger	.70c
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French Fries	.35c
Beer—(College ID)	.30c

Ask someone  
who's been there!

## Latch String

### Dinner

Sun.-Thurs. 5 p.m.-9 p.m.  
Fri.-Sat. 5 p.m.-10 p.m.

Steamship Roast Beef	3.75
Shishebab	4.00
Beef Fondue	4.00
Top Sirloin Steak	5.25
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Hillcrest Abortion Clinic  
(202) 581-4000

Preterm  
(202) 298-7300  
Pre-birth  
(202) 293-3346

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(202) 541-6037  
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